/9 cont./

133 23. The waterways are unsuitable for navigation because of the impetuous currents which at each step hinder the passage of boats, even small native curiaras; and this highland, surrounded on the north, east, and west by craggy mountain ridges and immense forests, this region is, with respect to Venezuela, a true nest of eagles or of airplanes. Only to the south are there some easier ways across some gorges of Pakaraima toward the Brazilian campos of the Branco River, which has been and in great measure still is the nursemaid and like the umbilical [491] cord of this part of Venezuela. The highway decreed in the distant times of General Gómez has still not poked its head into [552] those lands; and there one lives dependent upon the vulture-canoe, kurún-kanhúa, as the Indians say /the airplane/.

Chapter III

000 ## The Soul of the Gran Sabana and the Soul of the Pemón Indians

24. The patá-muná. 25. Truisms. 26. A copper-colored soul? 27. Conclusions. 28. The Indian is a child. 29. The maloca, symbol of the Indian soul. 30. Imagination a predominant faculty of the Indians.

24. To avoid caviling to my readers, I wish to tell them without circumlocutions that the soul of the Gran Sabana, to which I here refer, is the Indians. /10/

Certainly, if everywhere form is what gives life to material, and the inhabitants of a region with their typical customs and activities are those who give life and interest to their lands, it need not be said that they who have given and do give interest and life to the Gran Sabana are the Indians, its natural